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The active part he took in the American revolution was very conducive to its final success. Without French aid, the Americans could not have accomplished their freedom. In procuring it for them, M. de La Fayette was highly instrumental.

How varied and chequered is the life of some men! That of M. de La Fayette has been remarkably so. Early in life, a youthful warrior, amidst a rude people struggling for freedom: afterwards the idol of the French nation, the friend to monarchy and ration-

al reform: a general at the head of armies: a prisoner in the dungeon of a despot. Finally a private gentleman, an agriculturist and a benevolent friend to his neighbourhood: there are few so distinguished, with so little of fault; few, so having suffered, with so little asperity; few so capable of withdrawing with unclouded temper to private life; few so divested of sordid or interested motives, and not one more estimable as a friend, more amiable as husband, father, and master of a family.

DETACHED ANECDOTES, &c.

OLD FASHIONED BOUTS RIMEZ.

LORD Rivers, who was beheaded at Pomfret, by order of the tyrant Richard, was a man of taste and literature in his day. Among his productions, one is a translation of the moral proverbs of Christian of Pise; which work he turned into a poem of three hundred lines, the greatest part of which he contrived to terminate with the letter E; a striking instance of ill applied application, and of the false taste with which that age was infected. The following lines which are its conclusion may serve as a specimen:

Of these sayynges Cristyne was the auctoresse,
Which in makyn had such intelligence,
That therefore she was mireur and mai-
tresse,
Her works testifie the experience,
In Frenssh language was written this
sentence,
And thus englished doth hit rehearse,
Antoin Wideyille therle Ryvers.

To this Caxton the printer adds a few lines in the same style.

Go thou lital quayer and recommaund me
Unto the good grace of my special Lorde,
Therle Ryveris, for I have emprinted the,
At his commandement, following every
worde

His copie, as his secretary can recorde
At Westmenstre, of Feverer the xv. daye,
And of Kind Edwarde the xvii. year vraye.

Emprinted by CAXTON,
In Feverer the cold season.

THE FITZGERALD FAMILY.

Genealogists say that the family of Fitzgerald descended from the dukes of Tuscany, who in the reign of King

Alfred settled in England, and from thence transplanted themselves to Ireland. To this the earl of Surry seems to allude in his verses on the fair Geraldine, generally supposed to have been one of the daughters of Gerald Fitzgerald, earl of Kildare; when he says:

From Tuscany came my Ladies worthy
race.

ORIGIN OF THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

In Rastel's Chronicle, lib. vi. under the life of Edward III. is the following curious passage. "About the nineteenth yere of this kyng, he made a solempne feast at Wyndesore, and a great justes and turnament, where he devysed, and perfected substauegally, the order of the knyghtes of the garter; howe be it, some afferme that this order began fyrste by kyng Rycharde, *Cure de Lyon*, at the sege of the cite of Acres; wherin his great necessitie, there were but twenty-six knyghtes that fyrmyly and surely abode by the kyng; where he caused them all to wear thonges of blew leather about their legges. And afterwarde they were called the knyghtes of the blew thonge.

ANECDOTE RELATIVE TO THE BATTLE OF POICTIERS.

The following Anecdote relative to the taking of John, King of France, at the Battle of Poictiers, is taken from one of the Harleian manuscripts in the British Museum.

"Sir Howell ap Fywall, ap Griffith,

ap Howell, ap Meredith, ap Einion, ap Gwgan, ap Meredith Goch, ap Cothwyn, ap Tangno, called Sir Howell y Fywall, or Sir Howell Poleaxe, from his constant fighting with that warlike instrument. It is said he dismounted the French king, cutting off his horse's head at one blow with his battle-axe, and took him prisoner; as a trophy of which victory, it is said, that he bore the arms of France, with a battle-axe in bend sinister, argent.

It is also recorded, that as a memorial of this gallant action, he received in gift, from the Black Prince, the constableness of Criketh castle, and other things in North Wales, also the rent of Deemills, in Chester; and besides these, a mess of meat to be served before his battie-axe or partisan for ever, in perpetual memory of his good service. This mess was afterwards carried down to be given to the poor, and had eight yeomen attendants found at the king's charge, which were afterwards called yeomen of the crown, who had eight pence per day, and lasted till the beginning of queen Elizabeth's reign.

The following account of the retirement of Charles, V. in the monastery of St. Juste, given by one of the monks, may serve as a curious contrast to the high wrought description of the Scotch historian.

There is the melancholy solitude where that monarch became imbecile and devout, passed his days in winding up clocks, in teizing the friars, in giving himself the discipline, in daubing the walls of his cell with scraps on predestination and grace, in stunning himself with reflecting on the abandon-

ment of all his crowns, and in repenting. There he performed the farce of his own burial, put himself in a coffin, rung for himself the *de profundis* and shewed all the follies of a distempered brain. One day when he went in his turn to wake the novices, at the hour of matins, one of them whom he shook too violently cried out, "Hast thou not troubled the repose of the world long enough, without coming to disturb that of peaceable men who have forsaken it."

GANGANELLI.

This prelate, after he was elected to the popedom, used to retire with an old convent friend of his, Father Francis, into a bower sequestered from the eye of curiosity; here the cloister anecdotes amused them, and they seemed in a state of perfect equality. One day the Pope viewing him, repeated twice these words, "He has kept his garb and is happier than I who wear the tiara. It was decreed I should be a Pope, and I much fear"....here he paused,...."however we must submit to the will of God."

NEW DUTIES FOR OLD OFFICERS.

When Gabrielli, the celebrated singer, was at Milan, the Empress of Germany wished to engage her to sing in her court. The salary she demanded was 7000 rubles, (about 1500*l.*) a year, besides a house and carriage; nor would she relax the least article of the sum. They remonstrated with her on the unreasonableness of so enormous a salary, and to induce her to diminish it, informed her that a field-marshal had no more. "If that be the case," said she, "I would advise her majesty to make one of her field-marshals sing."

ORIGINAL POETRY.

INSCRIPTION

FOR AN INTENDED MONUMENT TO THE MEMORY
OF J. CAMPBELL, OF BELFAST, MERCHANT...
DIED 1804, AGED 73.

'TIS not the heap of dust this tomb contains,
This wreck of nature forms not—his remains,
But truth, and worth, plain, simple and sincere,

By friends long felt, now hallowed by their
tear:

And manners mild, affectionate, and kind,
A faithful mirror of the candid mind.
Temperate and prudent, regular and just;
His guardian care still active to its trust,
Sparing in words, and speaking in the deed,
No narrow sect pal'd in his christian creed,
Deed without show, his evangelic plan,
He worshipp'd God, by doing good to man,